FILED

May 19 2010

## IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

Ed Smith
CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT
STATE OF MONTANA

PR 06-0255 and PR 06-0698

MAY 1 9 2010

CLERK OF THE SUPREME COURT
STATE OF MONTANA

IN THE MATTER OF DIANE KEEFAUVER,

An Attorney at Law,

ORDER OF DISCIPLINE

Respondent.

In April of 2006, a two-count formal complaint was filed against Montana attorney Diane Keefauver in this Court's Cause No. PR 06-0255, and in October of that year, a separate six-count formal complaint was filed against her in Cause No. PR 06-0698. A hearing on both complaints was held before the Commission on Practice (Commission) in September of 2009, at which Keefauver appeared with her counsel, Douglas Wold.

On March 30, 2010, the Commission filed its findings of fact, conclusions of law, and recommendations, which are available for public review in the office of the Clerk of this Court. The Commission noted Keefauver is indigent and is no longer practicing law. The Commission concluded the evidence presented at the hearing was insufficient to establish any violations of the Rules of Professional Conduct as alleged in the complaints except for violation of Rule 8.1(b), MRPC, as a result of Keefauver's failure to respond to the Office of Disciplinary Counsel's multiple communications and inquiries regarding these matters. The Commission recommends that Keefauver be suspended from the practice of law for a period of 30 days. The Commission further recommends that, because of her indigent status, costs and expenses for these proceedings should not be assessed against her.

We have reviewed the record and the Commission's recommendations in this matter. We hereby adopt the findings, conclusions, and recommendations of the Commission. We further note that the records of the State Bar of Montana reflect that Keefauver is currently suspended from the practice of law in Montana for nonpayment of bar dues.

Based upon the foregoing,

## IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

Diane Keefauver shall be suspended from the practice of law in the state of Montana for 30 days, beginning May 19, 2010, and ending Jove 19, 2010.

The Clerk of this Court is directed to serve a copy of this Order of Discipline upon Diane Keefauver at her last known address; and to provide copies to Disciplinary Counsel Shaun Thompson, P.O. Box 1099, Helena, MT 59624; Shauna Ryan, Office Administrator for the Commission on Practice; the Clerks of all the District Courts of the state of Montana with the request that each Clerk provide a copy to each district judge for that Clerk's county; the Clerk of the Federal District Court for the District of Montana; the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Appeals of the Ninth Circuit; and the Executive Director of the State Bar of Montana.

DATED this  $\sqrt{9}^{15}$  day of May, 2010.

Justices

Chief Justice